

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 21-31 were pending, under consideration and subjected to examination in the Office Action. Appropriate claims have been amended, canceled and/or added (without prejudice or disclaimer) in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, such changes are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment and are simply refocused claims in which Applicant is presently interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 21-35 will be pending for further consideration and examination in the application.

REJECTION UNDER '112, 2ND PAR. OBVIATED VIA CLAIM AMENDMENT

Claims 21-31 have been rejected under 35 USC '112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the concerns listed on page 2 of the Office Action. Appropriate ones of such claims have been carefully reviewed and carefully amended where appropriate in order to address the Office Action listed concerns. As the foregoing is believed to have addressed all '112 second paragraph concerns, reconsideration and withdrawal of the '112 second paragraph rejection are respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC '102 - TRAVERSED

The 35 USC '102 rejection of claims 21-31 as being anticipated by Hallowell et al. (U.S. Patent Pub 2004/0003980) is respectfully traversed. Insofar as any such rejection applies to Applicant's presently-clarified claims, Applicant respectfully submits the following. However, such rejections have been rendered obsolete by the present clarifying amendments to Applicant's claims, and accordingly, traversal arguments are not appropriate at this time. However, Applicant respectfully submits the following to preclude renewal of any such rejections against Applicant's clarified claims.

All descriptions of Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention, and all descriptions and rebuttal arguments regarding the applied prior art, as previously submitted by Applicant in any form, are repeated and incorporated hereat by reference. Further, regarding any descriptions and rebuttal arguments concerning Applicant's invention and/or the applied prior art as included herein, yet found to be corrective over prior descriptions and rebuttal arguments, such corrective descriptions and rebuttal arguments should be considered to supersede prior descriptions and rebuttal arguments. Still further, all Office Action statements regarding the prior art rejections are respectfully traversed. As additional arguments, Applicant respectfully submits the following remarks from Applicant's foreign patent representative.

In US 2004/0003980, it is disclosed that the evaluation region 108 detects the size of the paper money, and the shutter regulates the movement of sheets of the paper moneys of a certain number of the sheets, but the movement of a bundle of the plurality of sheets of the paper moneys common in size is not disclosed.

According to each of claims 21 and 25, the bundle of the plurality of sheets of the paper moneys common in size detected by the paper money size detector is moved by the travel regulating member to be stacked into the stacking device even when the apparatus receives a plurality of kinds of paper moneys different from each other in size.

In US 2004/0003980, since the movement of the bundle of the plurality of sheets of the paper money common in size is not disclosed, when the apparatus receives a plurality of kinds of paper moneys different from each other in size, the sheets of the certain number to be moved may have respective sizes different from each other in size.

In addition to the foregoing, the following additional remarks from the Undersigned are also submitted in support of traversal of the rejection and patentability of Applicant's claims.

[continued next page]

More particularly, added dependent claims 32-33 recite “wherein the travel regulating member comprises **a stopper part** upon which leading ends of the paper moneys are capable of impinging, and **a position of the stopper part is changed in accordance with the size of the paper moneys to be received by the stopper part to form the bundle of the plurality of sheets of the paper moneys common in size.**” Added dependent claims 34-35 substantially parallel claims 32-33, respectively, but more specifically recite “a position of the stopper part is **rotatably**-changed in accordance with the size of the paper moneys to be received by the stopper part to form the bundle of the plurality of sheets of the paper moneys common in size.” Applicant’s **FIG. 24** (reproduced herewith for convenience) shows

FIG. 24

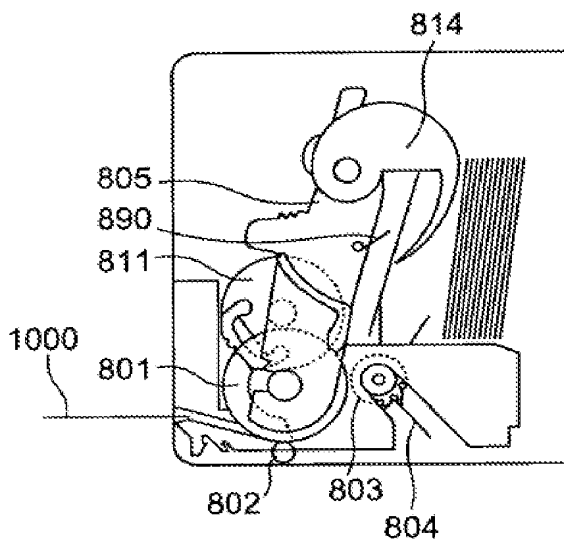
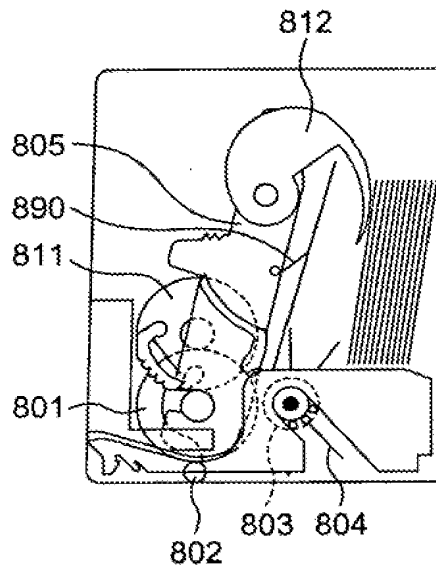


FIG. 25



a rotatable state (see item **814**) where a size of a paper money to be introduced is relatively small, while **FIG. 25** (reproduced herewith for convenience) shows a rotatable state where a size of a paper money to be introduced is relatively large. Such features/limitations are supported within Applicant’s original disclosure, for

example, from page 29, line 2 to page 31, line 4. Stopper positioning is advantageous, in that more reliable money-capturing and/or positioning may be conducted.

Regarding Hallowell et al., such reference appears not to teach such features/limitations. For example, if the Hallowell et al. **FIG. 2b** (reproduced herewith for convenience) **211**, **212** shutters were repositioned regarding money size, such would not be conducted via rotation in that Hallowell et al.'s items 211, 212 are gate shutters.

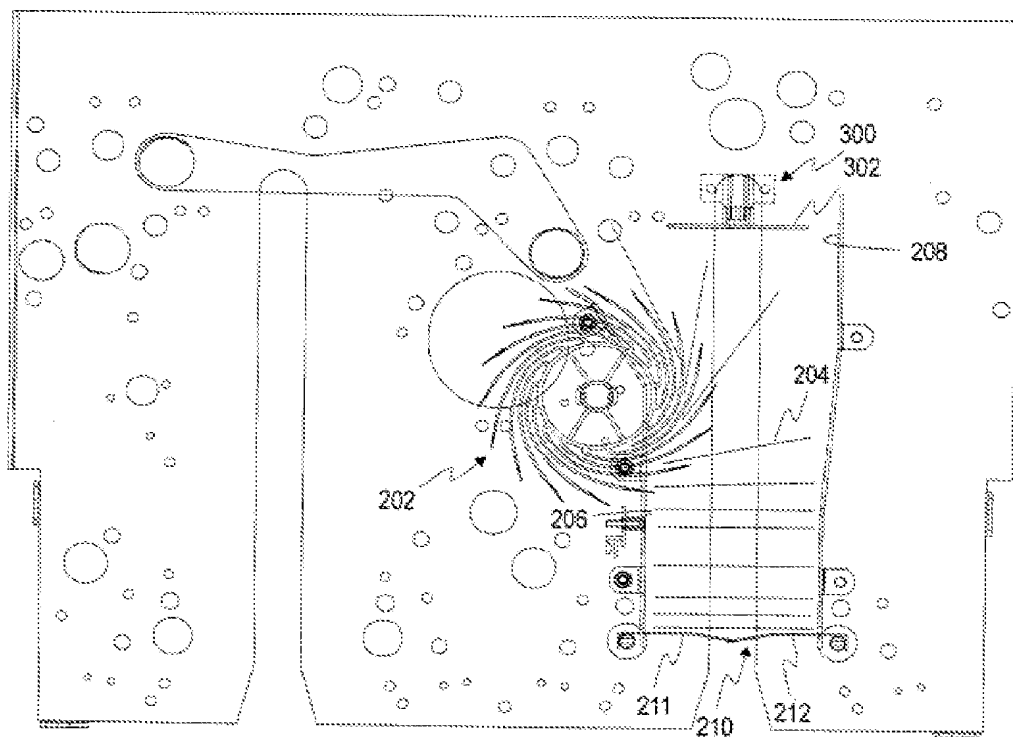


FIG. 2b

As a result of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art (taken alone and in the Office Action combinations) would not support a '102 obviousness-type rejection of Applicant's claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of such '102 rejection, and express written allowance of all of the '102 rejected claims, are respectfully requested.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, i.e., Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Authorization is herein given to charge any shortage in the fees, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 500.43493X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Based upon all of the foregoing, allowance of all presently-pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

/Paul J. Skwierawski/
Paul J. Skwierawski
Registration No. 32,173

PJS/slk
(703) 312-6600